



PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date June 7, 2004 Ayesha J. Shaikh
Ayesha J. Shaikh

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Daniel B. Penney

Attorney Docket No.: 500987.02

Serial No. : 10/643,268

Group Art Unit : 2824

Filed : August 18, 2003

Examiner : Nam T. Nguyen

Confirmation No. : 4652

Date of Notice
of Allowance : March 16, 2004

Title : PREDECODE COLUMN ARCHITECTURE AND METHOD

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS
FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

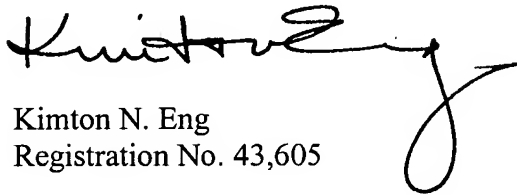
In the Examiner's reasons for allowance, he states each independent claim is allowable because the prior art does not teach or suggest a particular element or elements recited in each of the claims. While applicant agrees with the Examiner's indication that the prior art does not teach or disclose the particular elements cited by the Examiner, the undersigned would like to point out that each claim includes a combination of elements and it is the recited

combination, which includes the elements cited by the Examiner, that is not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

While the combinations of elements recited in the allowed claims are allowable, the undersigned would like to point out that some or all of these individual elements may be broadened such that the resulting combination is still patentable. Applicant may elect to pursue such claims, or to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the present invention, through a continuation or reissue application, or through a reexamination proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimton N. Eng', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kimton N. Eng
Registration No. 43,605

KNE:ajs

Enclosure:

Postcard

1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3400
Seattle, Washington 98101-4010
(206) 903-8800 (telephone)
(206) 903-8820 (fax)

h:\ip\documents\clients\micron technology\900\500987.02\500987.02 comments stmt allowance.doc